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ELEKTRA

Assassin™

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ELEKTRA Assassin

—THE LOST YEARS—

S.H.I.E.L.D. ROBOT AGENT PROGRAM AN "OBSCENITY", SAYS KEN WIND

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Democratic Presidential Candidate Ken Wind declared that the United Nations espionage agency S.H.I.E.L.D. is "violating the basic human rights of its employees" by "converting them into Frankenstein monsters". Wind's statement was made at a press conference today.

S.H.I.E.L.D.'s ExTechOp Division equips field operatives with prosthetic limbs and organs. A Senate vote on funding for ExTechOp is expected later this week.

"The emotional stress on these poor men and women must be hideous," Wind said. "It is symptomatic of the present administration's total disrespect for human dignity that the incumbent supports this obscenity," he said.

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CHAPTER SIX:
WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING FOR
Your Honeymoon Getaway
POTOMAC MOTOR INN
COCKTAILS!!
"FREE" "COMPLIMENTARY" CHAMPANE!
I PICKED THE PLACE.
THAT MUCH, SHE LET ME DO...

...SAID SHE **TRUSTED** ME TO FIND A **HIDEOUT** WHERE **NOBODY** WOULD LOOK FOR HER.

SHE DIDN'T SAY IT OUT **LOUD**, OF COURSE...

...CHRIST, LOOK AT HER DOWN THERE...

...HEART-SHAPED WATER-BED, JUST LIKE THEY ADVERTISE...

...NO, SHE WOULDN'T TALK OUT **LOUD**. THAT'S TOO **OBVIOUS** FOR **ELEKTRA**.

SUPER-POWERED **NINJA**--THAT'S RIGHT, **NINJA**, AS IN **ASSASSIN**--THEY TALK TO YOU IN YOUR **HEAD**.

AT LEAST **THIS** ONE DOES.

AND SHE READS MY **MIND**.

SHE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT SHE'S DOING TO ME.

SHE THINKS IT'S **FUNNY**.

TEN HOURS NOW, SHE'S BEEN SLEEPING...

...TEN HOURS--AND SHE SHIFTS AND SIGHS JUST OFTEN ENOUGH TO KEEP MY **INTEREST** UP.

MY **INTEREST**.

THE COMPLIMENTARY PINK CHAMPAGNE ISN'T **HELPING**.

LISTEN TO THEM, CHUCK. I MEAN, SHIT--

--THEY'VE BEEN PISSING AND MOANING SINCE THE PANAMA CANAL.

SCARED SHITLESS, THAT'S WHAT THEY ARE...

I COULDN'T DISOBEY A DIRECT ORDER FROM COLONEL FURY, MARION.

THAT WOULD BE GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL.

DISMISSAL? WE'LL BE LUCKY IF HE DOESN'T HAVE US UP FOR TREASON, HAROLD!

HE'S JUST NOT BUYING OUR COVER--HE WANTS TO KNOW GARRETT'S HISTORY--AND HE WANTS TO SEE PERRY.

YES, YES. AND, BEING A MILITARY MAN...

...THE COLONEL IS INSENSITIVE TO CERTAIN UNPLEASANT NECESSITIES OF MODERN ESPIONAGE--

--AND WE HAVE MADE CERTAIN ACQUISITIONS OF PERSONNEL THAT WERE, TECHNICALLY, UNAUTHORIZED...

HAROLD--IF FURY FINDS OUT WHO PERRY IS...

CAN'T STAND IT WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT ME LIKE I'M NOT HERE--

BE CALM, PERRY.

YES, YES. WE MIGHT WELL FIND THE COLONEL UNRECEPTIVE.

LET THE DOCTORS CHATTER. THEY DO NOT MATTER. NO.

YOU ARE ALL THAT MATTERS.

ONLY YOU, CHERISHED ONE.

SOON THEY WILL REBUILD YOU.

MAKE YOU MIGHTY.

RIGHT, RIGHT. I CAN'T KICK.

GET IT, CHUCK? I MEAN, NO BODY--I MEAN, NO LEGS--

--CAN'T KICK --GET IT?--

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT ELEKTRA DIDN'T STOP ME FROM ORDERING UP SOME PROPER BOOZE.

THE BAD NEWS IS THAT SHE'S TAKING ANOTHER BATH.

HER FOURTH.

AND THIS ONE TAKES LONGER THAN THE OTHERS.

THE SOUNDS SHE MAKES...

...THE VIEW, I DO MY BEST...

...NOT TO GET...

...OH, JESUS...

...JESUS...

...YOU'D THINK THERE WASN'T A MAN IN THE ROOM.

HELL. MAYBE THERE ISN'T.

JUST AN EX-SPY MIND SLAVE.

IN HEAT.

THE MOVIES DON'T HELP...

WHAT IS THIS THING YOU CALL LOVE?...

...WHY DO YOU TOUCH...ME THERE?...

KLIK

ANYTH

KLIK

OH, OFFICER--I'D DO ANYTHING NOT TO GET A TICKET...

...MOVIES LIKE THIS ARE THE LAST THING I NEED.

I KEEP FLIPPING THE CHANNELS AND LOOKING FOR FILMS OF AUSCHWITZ--ANYTHING TO TAKE MY MIND OFF HER...

...OFF THE SOAP, DRIBBLING ACROSS--

PERRY.

...YES, SIR. I GIVE EXCELLENT... DICTATION...

KLIK

RIGHT. PERRY.

THINK ABOUT PERRY.

THINK ABOUT PERRY AND MAYBE YOU'LL COOL OFF ENOUGH TO STAND UP WITHOUT EMBARAS-ING, YOUR-SELF, GARRETT.

PERRY. SHE KILLED HIM.

--YES OH YES OH

KLIK

AND HE PAID ME A VISIT.

...YES, SIR, IT'S A **HUGE**... ACCOUNT...

KLIK

PERRY AND I GET ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATE AN **ASSASSINATION.**

THE **ASSASSIN** SHOVES PERRY'S **BAYONET** INTO HIS **SKULL**--

--DRYING HERSELF OFF.

DON'T MISS A **SPOT**, NOW, HONEY...

...**PERRY.**

PAID ME A **VISIT** WITH THE **BAYONET** STILL IN HIS **HEAD.**

SAID HE WAS COMING BACK TO **LIFE.**

CRAZY... MUST'VE BEEN **HALLUCINATING.** THE AGENCY COULDN'T HAVE THE **TECHNOLOGY.** NOT **YET.**

HERE SHE COMES.

SEEN BETTER.

NOW, OH--

KLIK

--AND NOW THE **NEWS**...

GOTTEN AROUND.

SEEN BETTER.

DON'T GIVE A DAMN.

SHIT.

ORGANIZED SERIES OF **EXPLOSIONS** AT THE INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL...

DON'T HAVE TO SIT SO CLOSE.

...WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK...

THE T.V. GETS **LOUDER,** LIKE THEY ALWAYS DO DURING **COMMERCIALS.**

MUSIC PLAYS-- AN ORCHESTRAL VERSION OF "BLOWIN' IN THE WIND", DISGUISED ENOUGH TO AVOID A **LAWSUIT.**

IT'S THE **THEME SONG**-- OF HER **NEXT** TARGET...

CAN'T YOU **FEEL** IT?--

--IN EVERY CITY OF OUR GREAT LAND... IN EVERY TOWN... FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA...

...A NEW SPIRIT IS RISING IN AMERICA... A NEW HOPE IS GROWING ...A NEW AGE IS ABOUT TO BEGIN...

...ON NOVEMBER FIFTH, AMERICANS WILL MAKE HISTORY --SAYING NO TO DESPAIR AND SUSPICION--

--SAYING YES--TO LOVE...

STUDY HIM GARRETT.

HE IS THE MAN WHO GIVES OUR LIVES MEANING...

W I N D

...ON NOVEMBER FIFTH, AMERICA WILL VOTE ITS CONSCIENCE. KEN WIND. DEMOCRAT. LIBERAL. THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

YOU'RE THE LAST MAN I EXPECTED TO VISIT, MR. WIND. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

PLEASE, GENERAL --CALL ME KEN.

I THINK WE'LL BE GREAT FRIENDS.

MR. WIND--YOU WANT TO CUT MY BUDGET TO SHREDS. YOU'RE FIGHTING FUNDING FOR EXTECHOP.

PARDON ME IF I CAN'T SEE US AS FRIENDS.

KEN, PLEASE.

REORIENTING SENATE OPINION ON EXTECHOP WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A TEST OF MY POLITICAL EFFICACY.

BESIDES... ESPIONAGE IS SOMEWHAT BESIDE THE POINT, ISN'T IT?

I'M NOT SURE I FOLLOW YOU.

I'M SURE YOU DON'T, GENERAL. NOT YET.

STILL, YOU MUST BE AWARE OF THE NEED FOR IDEOLOGICAL COHESION, IN ANY COMMUNAL EFFORT...

...GATHERING OF THE TROOPS, YOU MIGHT SAY...

I COULD NEVER HAVE FORMED THE NECESSARY SOCIO-ETHNIC COALITION OF VOTING AMERICANS WITHOUT GIVING THE IMPRESSION OF A RECOGNIZABLE POLITICAL STANCE.

HELL OF A WAY TO TALK, MR. WIND.

KEN. KEN.

WAR HAS BECOME A DIFFICULT IDEA TO SELL, MY FRIEND. LUCKILY, IT NO LONGER REQUIRES PUBLIC SUPPORT.

NOBODY WANTS A --WHAT IS THIS?

YOU'LL FIND IT STIMULATING.

SCREW THE POLLS. I'M STILL PRESIDENT.

EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT.

...PRESIDENT SEEN AS STEADILY LOSING CREDIBILITY IN THE EYES OF THE VOTERS...

REMEMBER, AMERICA-- NOT WIND LIKE A WATCH...

...BUT WIND-- LIKE THE AIR...

...WHILE SUPPORT FOR CHALLENGER KEN WIND HAS REACHED A NEARLY RELIGIOUS INTENSITY...

I ORDER UP ANOTHER **BOTTLE** AND A MICROWAVED **CHEESEBURGER.**

SHE GETS ENOUGH **SEAFOOD** TO MAKE HER GROW **GILLS** AND EATS EVERY **BIT** OF IT.

I SHOULD'VE **FILMED** HER, SUCKING BACK THOSE **CLAMS...**

...JUST A **TOOTH-ACHE.** ARE YOU SURE I HAVE TO TAKE **ALL** MY CLOTHES OFF?...

...WELL...YOU **ARE** THE **DOCTOR...**

...I'D TEACH A THING OR TWO TO THE CLOWNS WHO MAKE THE **MOVIES** FOR THIS PLACE.

OH NO

NO

SHE'S

THAT'S NOT **WATER** RUNNING.

HOW **CLEAN** DOES THAT BITCH HAVE TO **GET**

OH NO IT'S

NOT A BATH

SHE'S

TAKING

A

SHOWER

AND NOT JUST **ANY** SHOWER...

OH **JESUS** LOOK AT

...THIS IS THE **POTOMAC MOTOR INN.** OUR **HONEY-MOON GETAWAY** GOD DAMN **FANTASYLAND.**

SEEN BETTER

SHOWERS **HERE** HAVE **WINDOWS**

AND MIRRORS...

SHIT SEEN BETTER

MAYBE IT'S THE **BOOZE.** MAYBE I'M JUST TIRED OF **LIVING.**

GOT NO LIFE ANYWAY...

SHIT, GOT NO LIFE ANYWAY....

NO IT'S YOU

CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE CAN'T

IT'S YOU IT'S

NO IT'S THE BOOZE

THE GOD DAMN NOT

NOT GOING TO PUKE NOT

VIDEO MEMORANDUM TO COLONEL FURY, AGENT CHASTITY McBRYDE, DICTATING. GIVEN ***EXTECHOP'S*** FAILURE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH PERSONAL HISTORY INFORMATION ON SPECIAL AGENT ***JOHN GARRETT...***

S.H.I.E.L.D

...AND GIVEN GARRETT'S APPARENT PARTICIPATION IN THE CONSPIRACY TO ASSASSINATE ***KEN WIND***, I HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF MY LIMITED CAPACITY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH MY OWN KNOWLEDGE OF GARRETT'S ***PAST*** --AND ***CHARACTER.***

...SIR? YES, SIR. THEY TELL ME I'M HEALING ***QUICKLY***-- AND PROMISE THAT I'LL BE READY FOR MORE ***PORTABLE*** LIFE SUPPORT BY ***TOMORROW***. THANK YOU FOR ASKING, COLONEL.

...YES, SIR. THAT WAS A ***BEWILDERING*** EPISODE. THE ***PSYCHIC*** POWERS EMPLOYED BY THE WOMAN MAY MITIGATE THE CHARGES OF ***TREASON*** AND ***MURDER*** PLACED AGAINST JOHN GARRETT.

...YES, SIR. OF COURSE SIR. I FIRST MET GARRETT WHILE ON ASSIGNMENT IN ***LIBYA***. IN A COMBAT SITUATION, I WITNESSED HIS SUPERLATIVE PHYSICAL SKILL AND TACTICAL INGENUITY.

HE IS AN EXCELLENT MARKSMAN, AND UNUSUALLY ADEPT WITH AGENCY TECHNOLOGY. DESPITE HIS ARROGANT, OFFENSIVE MANNER-- AND HIS LACK OF ATTENTION TO AGENCY PROCEDURE OR PERSONAL HYGIENE-- HE IS AN EXCEPTIONALLY CAPABLE OPERATIVE.

I MUST REMARK HOWEVER, SINCE IT IS NECESSARY FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF MY FOLLOWING ACTIONS--

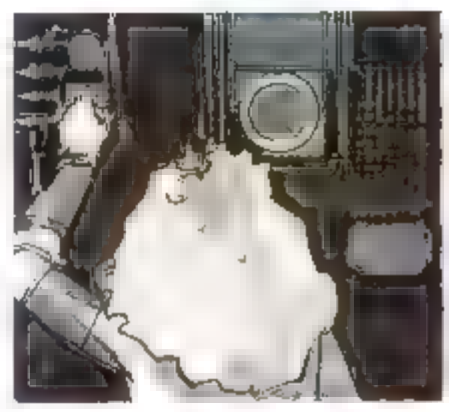
--THAT HIS BEHAVIOR WHILE OFF-DUTY WAS ALARMINGLY UNPROFESSIONAL AND IN DIRECT VIOLATION OF ***SHIELD'S*** STANDARD'S OF INTER-AGENT SOCIAL CONDUCT.

IN THE INTERESTS OF INTERNAL SECURITY, I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF INVESTIGATING HIS RECORD IN THE INFORMATION BANKS.

TO MY SURPRISE, I FOUND NO RECORD OF GARRETT IN THE CENTRAL PERSONNEL FILE. I BROUGHT THIS TO THE ATTENTION OF HIS SUPERIORS IN THE AGENCY'S CYBORG DIVISION, ***EXTECHOP***.

I RECEIVED NO REPLY FROM ***EXTECHOP***, AND WAS IN FACT, SWIFTLY REASSIGNED TO A MINOR POLICE ACTION IN VENEZUELA...YES, SIR, I FILED A COMPLAINT TO YOUR OFFICE. IT WAS NEVER DELIVERED.

DURING AN IMPOSED FURLOUGH, TWO MONTHS LATER, I CONTINUED MY INVESTIGATION, USING THE AGENCY'S ***CENTRAL COMMAND COMPUTER FACILITY***.



IT WAS ONLY BY CROSS-REFERENCING LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS FROM SEVEN STATES...

..THAT I WAS ABLE TO COMPILE THE FOLLOWING HISTORY OF JOHN GARRETT'S CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

THREE MONTHS AT DANNEMORA FOR ASSAULT

TWO YEARS AT RYKER'S ISLAND FOR GRAND LARCENY

RESISTING ARREST

SIX MONTHS ON A KENTUCKY WORK FARM FOR ATTACKING A POLICE OFFICER

BATTERY

INTENT TO COMMIT

STATUTORY RAPE-- FOUR COUNTS

I KNOW BETTER THAN TO ASK YOU IF YOU'RE SURE OF ALL THIS, CHASTITY.

THIS MAN-- BECAME AN AGENT OF SHIELD?...

NO, SIR. AN AGENT OF EXTECHOP.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY-- SIXTY-FIVE COUNTS.

LET'S SEE WHAT THOSE... WHAT EXTECHOP HAS TO SAY FOR ITSELF.

DR. BEAKER --GARRETT'S BOSS-- IS ON HIS WAY HERE.

THIS REPORT CAME IN TWENTY MINUTES AGO.

PROGRESS REPORT, VIDEO, EXTECHOP DIVISION, SAN CONCEPCION BRANCH, DR. HAROLD BEAKER, DIRECTOR, DICTATING, EN ROUTE TO SHIELD AIRBORNE COMMAND.

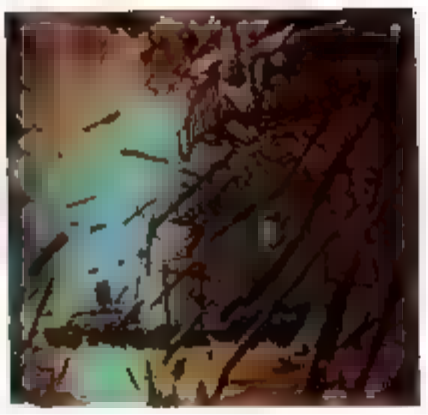
S.H.I.E.L.D

OUR EXPLANATION OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL POSSIBILITIES OF FIELD DEPLOYMENT OF PROSTHETIC-EQUIPPED OPERATIVES HAS BENEFITED FROM CIRCUMSTANCE--AND FROM OUR UNSHAKEABLE COMMITMENT TO HUMAN LIFE.

IF NOT FOR DEDICATED EFFORTS--WHICH EFFECTED STARTLING PROGRESS HERE AT THE SAN CONCEPCION BASE--TWO OF OUR FINEST OPERATIVES WOULD NOW BE DEAD.

FIRST, SPECIAL AGENT JOHN GARRETT, WHOSE ARTIFICIAL ARM IS REPRESENTATIVE OF EXTECHOP CAPABILITY AS OF ONE YEAR AGO...

...WAS CAUGHT IN AN EXPLOSION OF **MUNITIONS** AT SAN CONCEPCION HARBOR (FOR DETAILS, SEE **OPERATION SCRAMBLED EGGS**).



OUR CRACK MEDICAL TEAM WORKED QUICKLY, PLACING GARRETT ON **COMPLETE STATIONARY LIFE SUPPORT.** THIS ALONE WAS A **REMARKABLE** ACHIEVEMENT--

--SINCE **EIGHTY PER CENT** OF GARRETT'S **BODY,** INCLUDING HIS **LIMBS** AND MOST OF HIS VITAL **ORGANS,** HAD BEEN DESTROYED.

WORKING TIRELESSLY, OUR ENGINEERS SUCCESSFULLY REPLACED NOT ONLY HIS ARMS AND LEGS, BUT HIS **SPINE, NERVOUS SYSTEM, HEART, LIVER,** AND **LUNGS.**

THEIR REVOLUTIONARY WORK ENABLED GARRETT TO RESUME HIS DUTIES WITHIN THE SPACE OF **HOURS**--WITH **SUPERIOR** PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES.

THE METAL **ALLOYS** IN HIS **BONES** AND PLASTIC **COMPOUNDS** THAT COMPOSE HIS **SKIN** HAVE GIVEN HIM EXTRAORDINARY PHYSICAL **RESILIENCE**--

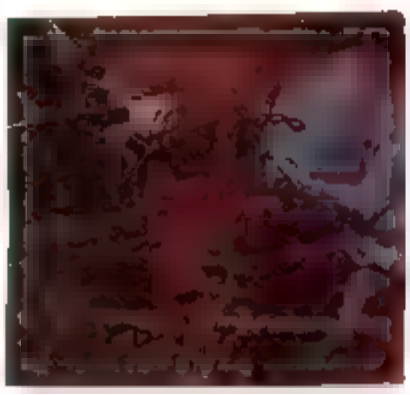
--AND HIS NEW **MUSCULAR SYSTEM,** WITH ITS COMBINATION OF **PNEUMATICS** AND INTERNALLY GENERATED **ELECTRICAL** POWER, HAVE GIVEN HIM VASTLY AMPLIFIED **STRENGTH.**

BUT, **GLORIOUSLY** OUR **TRIUMPH** WITH AGENT **GARRETT** IS **DWARFED** BY THE **SUCCESS** WE ARE POISED TO ACCOMPLISH IN EXTO-CHOPS LONG-RANGE GOAL OF CREATING THE **SUPER-AGENT.**

GARRETT'S **PARTNER,** AGENT **ARTHUR PERRY,** HAS BEEN AN **EXAMPLE** TO HIS FELLOW OPERATIVES --**CAPABLE, LOYAL, FEARLESS,** A **TRUE** PATRIOT.

HE WAS **MURDERED** AND **MUTILATED** AT THE SCENE OF THE **MUNITIONS** EXPLOSION. HIS **BRAIN** ITSELF WAS **CUT OPEN** AND **GOUGED** BY A **BAYONET.**

THIS, AND THE **FIRES,** LEFT PERRY REDUCED TO LITTLE MORE THAN A HUMAN **HEAD** AND THE BURNT HUSK OF A **SKELETON.**

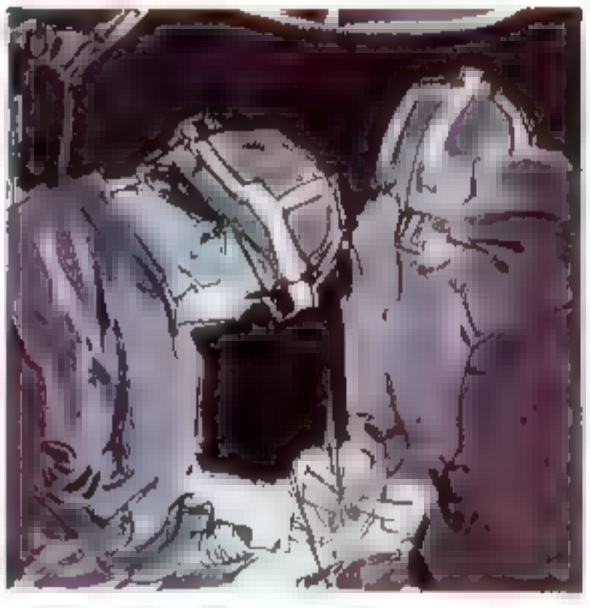


AS **TRAGIC** A LOSS AS THIS SEEMED TO BE, I WAS **INSPIRED** TO SEE MY STAFF **RALLY,** TO ATTEMPT THE HITHERTO TECHNOLOGICALLY **IMPOSSIBLE** --THE **REVIVICATION** OF **ARTHUR PERRY.**

THERE ARE *TIMES*, COLONEL, AS I'M SURE YOU *KNOW*, WHEN THE AMERICAN *FIGHTING SPIRIT* CAN BRING ABOUT *MIRACLES*. THIS IS ONE OF THEM.

I MUST ADMIT THAT I AM BROUGHT TO *TEARS* WHEN I THINK OF THE *THIRTY HOURS* OF UNRELIEVED *LABOR* BY OUR *TECHNO-SURGERY* TEAMS. NOT *ONCE* DID I HEAR A COMPLAINT.

UNFLAGGINGLY, THESE FINE MEN AND WOMEN--THESE *HEROES*--I SWEAR, SIR, *NEVER* A COMPLAINT--EMPLOYED *CIRCUIT GRAFTS*, REPLACING DESTROYED *CEREBRAL* MATTER WITH *COMPUTER* COMPONENTS.



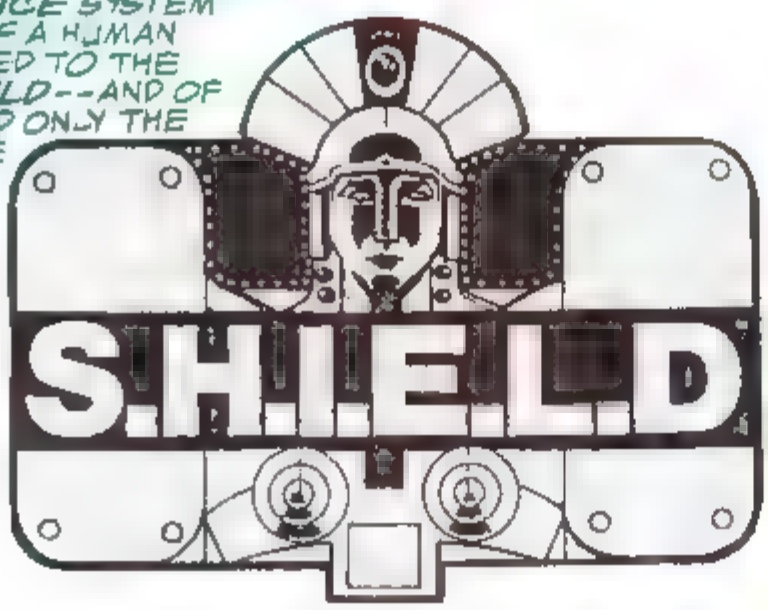
PERRY WAS PROVIDED WITH ARTIFICIAL *FRONTAL LOBES*, AND A COMPLETELY DIGITALIZED *OPTIC SYSTEM*. *BRAIN ACTIVITY* WAS RESTORED BY A SERIES OF ELECTRIC *SHOCKS*.

PERRY REGAINED *CONSCIOUSNESS* WITH NO APPARENT LOSS OF *REASON* OR *MEMORY*. HE HAS SIGNED A *RELEASE* GIVING US *COMPLETE FREEDOM* IN RECONSTRUCTING HIS *BODY*.

THIS IS, OBVIOUSLY, AN *UNPRECEDENTED* OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR DIVISION. INSTEAD OF A MUTILATED *CORPSE*, WE HAVE THE *RAW MATERIAL*--AND HAVE DEVELOPED THE *TECHNIQUES*--

THIS IS MORE THAN I *HOPED* FOR--AND EVERYTHING I *NEED* TO GET THE *FUNDING* FOR EXTECHOP.

--TO MANUFACTURE A *WEAPONS* AND *SURVEILLANCE* SYSTEM WITH THE *MIND* OF A HUMAN *AGENT*, DEDICATED TO THE *GOALS* OF *SHIELD*--AND OF AMERICA. WE NEED ONLY THE FACILITIES OF THE *HELICARRIER* TO MAKE THIS DREAM A *REALITY*.



BUT YOU'VE MADE ME *SUSPICIOUS*: CHASTITY.

I WANT YOU TO *RAID* THE BANKS --GET ME THE *COMPLETE* STORY ON AGENT *PERRY*.

AS YOU *WISH*, COLONEL FURY.

YOU'RE STRONGER THAN YOU LOOK-- STRONGER THAN ME--
--IMPOSSIBLE--
--YOU THROW ME DOWN ON A CEMENT FLOOR--
--FLOORS ARE CARPETED HERE--
--THERE ISN'T AN INCH OF ME THAT ISN'T BLEEDING-- STILL YOU FIND MORE WAYS I CAN HURT--
--YOU PUNISH ME--
--HUMILIATE ME--
--I BEG YOU--
--NOT TO STOP--

GARRETT.

YES, BABY--

GARRETT.

YOU'RE DREAMING, GARRETT.

WAKE UP.

SETTLE DOWN

JUST A DREAM

GOD IT WAS

DIDN'T

GOD IT WAS SO REAL.

DIDN'T HAPPEN.

JUST A DREAM.

BAD ENOUGH THAT IT COULD.

DOESNT MEAN ANYTHING.

IT COULD.

WORKING TOO HARD

DON'T RELAX ENOUGH.

EVERYBODY TELLS ME THAT.

BUT IT COULD HAPPEN.

JUST LIKE KEN WIND SAID.

WHEN

WHEN HE GAVE ME THAT DRINK.

COULD HAPPEN

COULD.

I COULD USE THE BYPASS CODE.

THE ONE WE DESIGNED IN CASE

IN CASE THE PRESIDENT WOULDN'T

THAT'S WHAT

JUST

JUST BY ACCIDENT

OR COULDN'T

I COULD PUNCH IT IN BY

THAT'S WHAT KEN WIND SAID

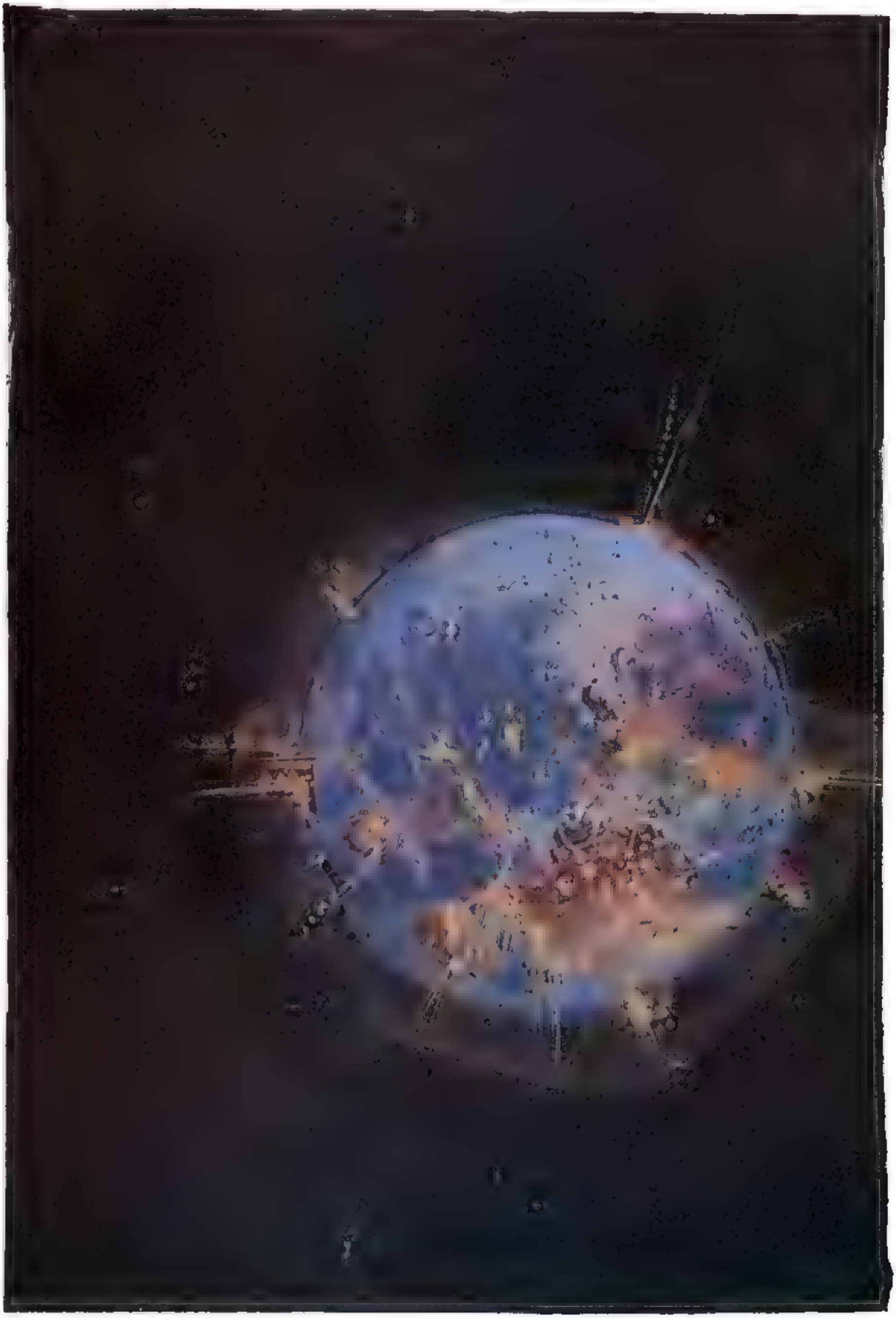
STEADY

JUST A DREAM

NO

A NIGHTMARE

NOBODY COULD STOP IT
BYPASS CODE
ALL IT WOULD TAKE
NOBODY
JUST THE CODE
HAVE TO BE CRAZY TO
NATURALLY
NEVER DO THAT OF COURSE
WE'VE ALL AGREED
NOT TO STOP IT
CRAZY TO DO THAT
ASSURED
NEVER
DESTRUCTION



JUST STUPID DREAM
SHAKING LIKE LEAF
NEVER DO THAT
JUST BY ACCIDENT
JUST LIKE KEN WIND SAID
WORKING TOO HARD
EVERYBODY SAYS
NEV
NEVER JESUS NEVER

SHOULDN'T TOJCH HIS STUFF
NEVER
DOESN'T EVEN TASTE GOOD
WHATEVER IT IS
STIMULATING
MUTUALLY

DOESN'T EVEN TASTE GOOD
ASSJRED
BUT
SOMETHING ABOUT IT
MAKES
FEELS GOOD
EVERYTHING
OKAY
EVEN THE DREAM

JUST A DREAM
OKAY
JUST BY ACCIDENT
EVERYTHING OKAY
THE DREAM
NEVER
HELL
DESTRUCTION
HELL ESPECIALLY
ESPECIALLY THE DREAM

"KEN WIND IS A FAGGOT," THE PRESIDENT TOLD REPORTERS. "HE'S A DEMOCRAT, ISN'T HE?"

THE ARMY FOR GAY RIGHTS TODAY MADE OFFICIAL ITS SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATE KEN WIND...

"... HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM GREEN BERETS ONE YEAR BEFORE HIS ENLISTMENT IN SHIELD. PRELIMINARY BANK SEARCH FINDS NOTHING QUESTIONABLE IN ARTHUR PERRY'S HISTORY.

"I CANNOT, HOWEVER, REGARD THIS INFORMATION AS CONCLUSIVE. PERRY'S RECORDS MAY HAVE BEEN ALTERED. I WILL CONTINUE MY PROBE OF THE BANKS... "

TELLING YOU, CHUCK, THERE'S **SHITS** AND THERE'S **SHITS.**

I MEAN, **BEAKER** AND **WRECK**, THEY'RE **SHITS**, RIGHT? BUT THEY'RE **SCARED** SHITS.

FURY, THOUGH...

--**FURY'S** A **WAR HERO** SHIT. LIKE MY **DAD.**

EVER **TELL** YOU WHAT I DID TO MY **DAD**, CHUCK?

I MEAN, **SHIT**...

DR. **BEAKER**--THE SENATE **VOTE** ON FUNDING FOR **EXTECHOP** COMES UP **TOMORROW.** I WANT SOMETHING TO **SHOW** THEM.

YOU HAVE **SIX HOURS** TO COMPLETE PERRY'S **RECONSTRUCTION.** HE IS NOT TO BE **ACTIVATED** WITHOUT MY **PERSONAL AUTHORIZATION.**

SOON THEY WILL **ALL BE AT YOUR MERCY, PERRY.**

SOON THEY WILL **BEG**

AND **CRAWL**

FOR YOUR **MERCY...**

I EXPECT A **FULL REPORT** AND AN OPERATIONAL **SUPER-AGENT** BY **SUNRISE.**

THEN WE'LL BEGIN YOUR FORMAL **DEBRIEFING** ON **EXTECHOP**--AND ITS **RECRUITMENT POLICIES.**

GET TO **WORK.**

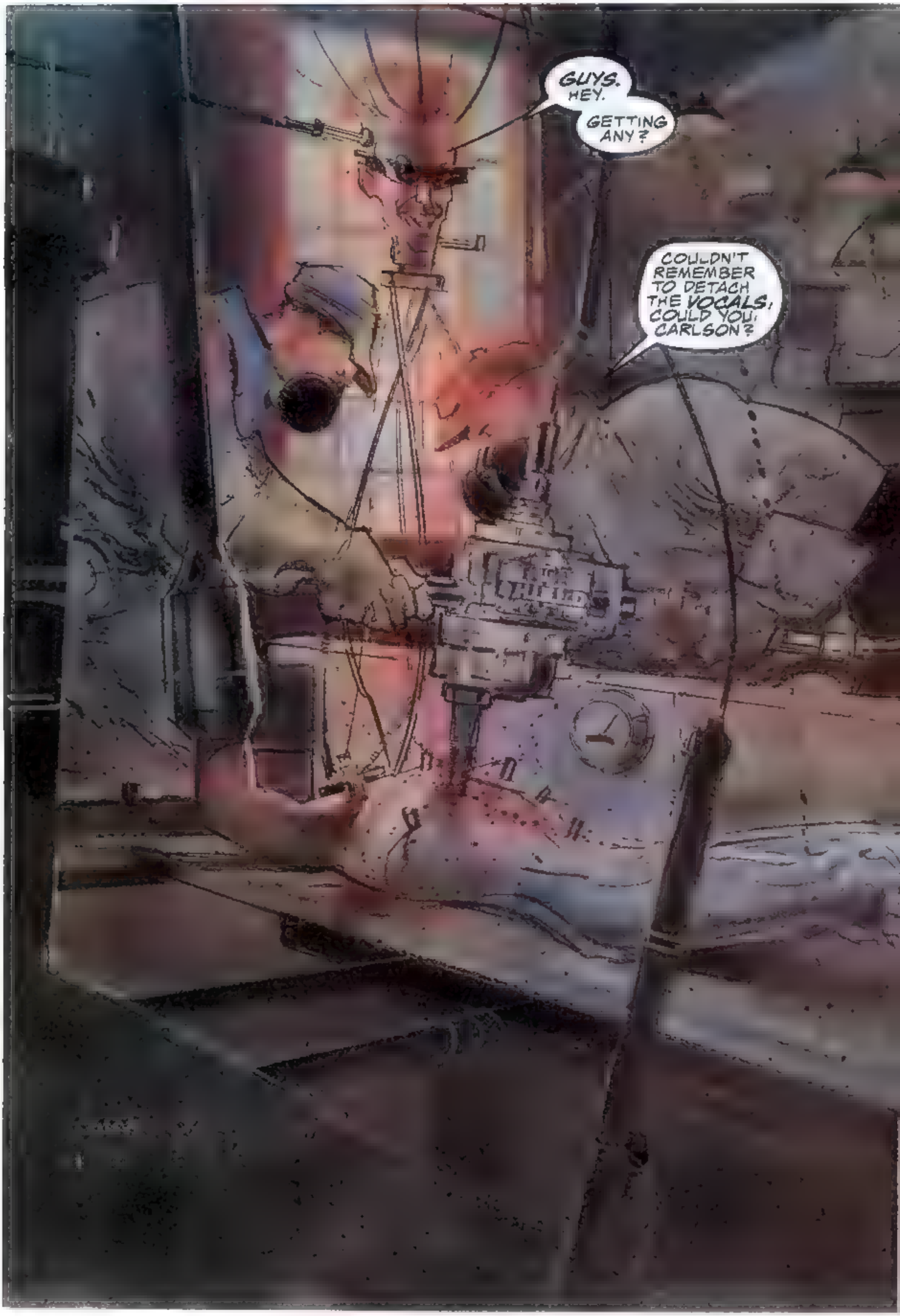
COLONEL'S GETTING **PISSY**, HUH, CHUCK?

COMING DOWN ON **BEAKER** LIKE A SON OF A BITCH.

NOTHING LIKE WATCHING A **SHIT** GET **SHIT** ON, HUH?

THE **COLONEL** MAY FEEL ANY WAY HE **LIKES**, OH VESSEL OF FATE...

...BUT **PLEASE**--LET US SPEAK **SILENTLY...**


GUYS. HEY.
GETTING ANY?
COULDN'T REMEMBER TO DETACH THE VOCALS, COULD YOU, CARLSON?

PROGRESS REPORT, 0300 HOURS. THE INTEGRATION OF SUPER-AGENT *PERRY* PROCEEDS *APACE*. WE ARE *CONFIDENT* THAT WE WILL MEET THE 0600 HOURS *DEADLINE*. PERRY'S *SKELETON* AND *NERVOUS SYSTEM* NEAR *COMPLETION*...

S.H.I.E.L.D

...AND, USING THE *SPECTACULAR* FACILITIES AVAILABLE HERE ON THE *HELICARRIER*, WE HAVE *EXPANDED* ON OUR ORIGINAL *BLUE-PRINTS*--ACTUALIZING UNHEARD-OF *CAPABILITIES* FOR THE SUPER-AGENT.

ALLOYS DEVELOPED HERE--BUT, AS YET, *UNAVAILABLE* AT OUR *SAN CONCEPCION* BASE, HAVE MADE POSSIBLE THE FORMATION OF A FUNCTIONAL, AND NEARLY INDESTRUCTIBLE *INTERIOR STRUCTURE*. FURTHER, WE HAVE INCORPORATED EXTENSIVE AND HIGHLY POTENT *WEAPONRY* IN HIS DESIGN.

THIS WEAPONRY WILL BE ITEMIZED IN THE WRITTEN REPORT. SUFFICE IT TO SAY, BY *DAWN* WE WILL HAVE EQUIPPED A SINGLE OPERATIVE WITH UNPRECEDENTED DESTRUCTIVE POWER.

S.H.I.E.L.D

SHOULDN'T DRINK THIS STUFF

CAN'T SETTLE DOWN

NO REASON TO SETTLE DOWN

EVERYTHING OKAY

JUST A DREAM

NOTHING TO DO HERE

MIGHT AS WELL GO TO THE OFFICE

NO HARM IN GOING TO THE OFFICE

BYPASS

GOD

DAMN

NO

HARM

CODE.

NNMGEHH

...NEVER DRINK AGAIN...

...SHE'S GONE. GONE OUT.

NO TELLING WHEN SHE'LL BE BACK.

MOUTH TASTES LIKE SOMETHING DIED IN IT...

THIS COULD BE MY CHANCE.

NNGFN

CHANCE TO GET FREE OF HER. DIE IF I DON'T. BITCH'LL KILL ME.

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER SHE'LL KILL ME.

JUST OPEN THE DOOR, GARRETT. HOTWIRE ONE OF THOSE STATION WAGONS AND DRIVE.

NFFN

KOFK

KAFFSHIT...

...WHOM I TRYIN' KID...?

SENATOR--I'M **CERTAIN** WHEN YOU **SEE** WHAT WE'VE **DEVELOPED**, YOU'LL...

...SENATOR, THIS IS **NOT** A MILITARY **PROPOSAL**...

...SENATOR, IF YOU'D JUST TAKE A **LOOK** AT WHAT WE...

...THE POSSIBLE **MEDICAL** APPLICATION ALONE WOULD JUSTIFY...

...YES, I KNOW WHAT **KEN WIND** SAYS...

EXCUSE ME, SENATOR. PLEASE HOLD.

WHAT IS IT, CHASTITY?

IT'S **PERRY**, SIR. I **KNEW** THEY'D TAMPERED WITH HIS RECORDS. I HAD TO USE EVERY ACCESS CODE THERE **IS**--AND MY DATA IS FAR FROM **COMPLETE**, BUT WHAT I **FOUND**...

...**LISTEN** TO THIS...

"...PERRY WAS APPREHENDED ON THREE COUNTS OF **RAPE** AND **MUTILATION** AT AGE **TWELVE**--SPENT SIX MONTHS **INSTITUTION-ALIZED**--"

YES, COLONEL?

STOP WORK, BEAKER.

"--RELEASED, READMITTED FOR TREATMENT FOLLOWING THE BRUTAL MURDER OF HIS **PARENTS** AND **SISTER**--

"--ESCAPED AT **FOURTEEN**, FELL IN WITH A LOS ANGELES **STREET GANG**--

"--ARRESTED AT AGE SIXTEEN FOR SELLING POISONED HEROIN TO SCHOOL CHILDREN--

SECURITY--

--IMPOUND ALL EXTECHOP MATERIAL--ARREST BEAKER AND WRECK--MAKE SURE PERRY IS NOT FUNCTIONAL--

"--SPOTTY EVIDENCE OF INVOLVEMENT IN A SNUFF FILM OPERATION--

THANK YOU FOR HOLDING, SENATOR.

PLEASE INFORM THE COMMITTEE THAT THE EXTECHOP PROPOSAL IS WITHDRAWN.

COLLINS! ESTEVEZ! I WANT AN ARMORED COMBAT SQUAD DOWN THERE IN THIRTY SECONDS.

YES, SIR

BE READY FOR WAR.

CHASTITY! KEEP TRANSMITTING.

VERY GOOD, SIR.

ALL PERSONNEL --THE COLONEL HAS SIGNALLED A RED ALERT. ASSUME COMBAT STATUS AND AWAIT INSTRUCTION.

"CONTINUING, SIR, AT AGE EIGHTEEN, PERRY FELL IN WITH A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION IN LEBANON--

"--PARTICIPATED IN THE SLAUGHTER OF FOURTEEN CIVILIAN ISRAELI HOSTAGES--"

--INSIST YOU PUT ME THROUGH TO FURY--THERE'S BEEN A MISUNDER-STANDING--

ALL YOUR FAULT, BEAKER!

HAD TO PUSH YOUR LUCK!

SECURITY COMING, CHUCK. I COULD USE A MINUTE OR TWO TO WARM UP.

AS YOU COMMAND, HONORED WARRIOR.

FREEZE IN THERE--

LOWERING THE BARRIER--

MOVE IT--

ONE OF THEM MADE IT IN, CHUCK--

NOBODY MOVE --YOU'RE UNDER WHFF

SLAM

BLEM

--GOOD GOD--

HAD TO PUSH YOUR LUCK YOU SON OF A BITCH--

HAD TO P

HEY. CHUCK. PAL. CHILL. I MEAN, BEAKER--

--HE'S ALL MINE.

SKRIK

ALMOST GOT IT-- ALMOST GOT IT--

GUNS READY

COLONEL'S ON HIS WAY

KKKREEEEE

HEY-- THE DOOR --IT'S--

WHAT THE HELL...

KFUNK

JESUS--

--OPEN FIRE--

THOK

TAKE A LOOK, CHUCK.

I MEAN, SHIT--

--TORE KRUPP'S FACE CLEAN OFF.

MORE COMING, PROUD SERVANT OF DARKNESS.

TOO MANY.

THERE--

--OPEN FIRE--

THE PORTHOLE, BELOVED WEAPON OF DESTINY--

--THE PLAN--

RIGHT, RIGHT...

MOTHER--

CEASE FIRE.

RIGHT THROUGH IT-- MAN, WE'RE THIRTY THOUSAND FEET UP--

--THAT'S SUICIDE--

VIDEO MEMORANDUM TO COLONEL FURY, AGENT CHASTITY McBRYDE, DICTATING, AT 0600 HOURS.

I AM COMMITTING TO THE CENTRAL BANKS WHAT I REGARD AS DATA PERTINENT TO THE CASE OF ARTHUR PERRY.

THIS, AS YOU KNOW, IS THE AS YET UNIDENTIFIED ASSASSIN OF SOUTH AMERICAN PRESIDENTE **CARLOS HUEVOS** AND U.S. AMBASSADOR **REICH.** I HAVE FOUND EVIDENCE TO LINK HER WITH **PERRY.**

THE WOMAN WAS BRIEFLY HELD PRISONER AT OUR BASE AT SAN CONCEPCION. BEFORE SHE ESCAPED, A FULL RANGE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS WERE RUN ON HER. AN UNUSUAL NARCOTIC WAS FOUND IN HER BLOOD.

DR. WRECK REPORTED THAT THIS NARCOTIC WAS UNKNOWN TO MODERN SCIENCE, AND THAT ITS **EFFECTS** ON THE WOMAN WERE **UNPRECEDENTED.** ACCORDING TO **WRECK,** IT **ALTERED** THE VERY **STRUCTURE** OF THE WOMAN'S **BRAIN.**

WRECK WENT SO FAR AS TO SUGGEST THAT THE SUBSTANCE EFFECTED A CASE OF **GENETIC REGRESSION**--ADAPTING THE WOMAN'S BRAIN TO THE MORE IMMEDIATE SENSORY NEEDS OF AN **ANIMAL.** THIS MIGHT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO HER REMARKABLE **SPEED** AND **FEROCITY...**

REVIEWING THE PSYCHOLOGICAL REPORT PREPARED BY THE HELICARRIER **MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,** I FOUND THAT TRACES OF THE SAME SUBSTANCE WERE FOUND IN THE BRAIN OF ARTHUR PERRY. WE CANNOT DETERMINE **HOW** IT WAS ADMINISTERED TO HIM...

...AND THE **AMOUNT** IN HIS SYSTEM IS CONSIDERABLY **LESS** THAN THAT FOUND IN THE **WOMAN.** NO **CHANGES** IN PERRY'S BRAIN HAVE BEEN NOTED. STILL, THIS IS AN INDICATION THAT PERRY MAY BE, IN SOME WAY **AFFILIATED** WITH THE WOMAN. FURTHER TESTS OF THE NARCOTIC ARE IN PROGRESS...

IT'S THE MILK

THAT'S WHAT KEN WIND CALLED IT

THE MILK

MAKES IT SEEM SO GOOD

SO EASY

EVEN THE PRESIDENT DOESN'T KNOW

EVERY

ABOUT THE BYPASS CODE

THING

OKAY

JOKE'S ON HIM

HIM AND HIS BOX

THERE'S THE ALARM

DEF CON THREE

BY NOW THE SOVIETS KNOW IT'S COMING

MUTUALLY

OUR FATHER

OUTSIDE

THEY'RE TRYING TO BREAK DOWN THE DOOR

THEY'RE TOO LATE

ASSURED

CODE ENTERED

WHO ART IN HEAVEN

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PRESS IT

PRESS

THE

BUTTON

HALLOWED BE THY

BL-AM

THANK GOD--

--HE DIDN'T DO IT--

GOD-- WHY--

--ALMOST STARTED WORLD WAR THREE--

--GOD HE ALMOST--

...WHEN I'M ELECTED I PROMISE A NEW SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT-- A UNITY OF PURPOSE...

YOU KNOW, HONEY...
...WE NEVER TALK...
AMMO